

DANTES Certification Program welcomes new accrediting body

DANTES is fortunate to welcome a new accrediting body to the DANTES Certification Program. We have just completed the new Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) with the Human Resource Certification Institute (HRCI®).

The Human Resource Certification Institute (HRCI®) maintains the nationally recognized standards set for individuals working in the Human Resource profession. Meeting Human Resource Certification Institute standards is the symbol of professional achievement for those pursuing this career. In addition to experience and education, the Professional in Human Resource (PHR) or the Senior Professional in Human Resource (SPHR) designation also signifies the mastery of the Human Resource body of knowledge.

HRCI® began certifying individuals nearly 27 years ago. They actually started in 1973 under their original name of the American Society for Personnel Administration (ASPA). HRCI is a credentialing organization that works to define the Human Resource body of knowledge and assesses candidates on their mastery of that body of knowledge.

The Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM), the parent organization to HRCI, is the world's largest association devoted to Human Resource management. Representing more than 165,000 individual

members, the Society serves the needs of Human Resource professionals by providing the most essential and comprehensive set of resources available. SHRM is committed to advancing the Human Resource profession to ensure that Human Resource is an essential and effective partner in developing and executing organizational strategy.



SHRM is one of several organizations known to develop educational materials used by PHR and SPHR candidates to prepare for the certification examinations. While HRCI and SHRM enjoy a warm affiliation, SHRM has no special access to the examination questions. In fact, HRCI advises all candidates that there is no single "best" method to prepare for the examination that will work for everyone and encourages candidates to study from multiple sources.

A+ certification pilot programs online

The DANTES Certification Program has worked out the details to offer A+ Core Hardware and A+ OS Technologies certification testing to military members on a cost-free basis. Those interested can find information describing these certification examinations on the DANTES web site at <http://www.dantes.doded.mil>. This funded pilot offers these two exams free to active duty and Reserve component personnel. However, funding will only be available for 464 candidates on a first-come, first-serve basis.

The information was posted on the DANTES web site in February; this article is intended to encourage prospective examinees to visit the web site and learn more about this opportunity. The official announcement appears in the "Hot News." Detailed information and the application form can be found in the DANTES Certification Program web page.

Military candidates, who meet the established eligibility requirements for applying, must complete the application, obtain the signature of the Test Control Officer on the application, and forward it to CompTIA for processing. When CompTIA reviews the application and

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Tuition Assistance Management Program soared in 2002

The fiscal year 2002 was a year of major growth for the DANTES Tuition Assistance Management Program (TAMP). There were 64,030 enrollments, 58,673 TA payments and \$19,275,178 in tuition assistance (TA) paid. The FY02 figures will continue to increase at diminishing rates over the next few months as schools submit enrollment forms, grades and invoices.



The FY02 activity had tremendous increase over FY01 in the number of enrollments (115 percent), the number of TA payments (138 percent) and the TA paid (140 percent).

The Reserve components experienced increases in enrollments (129 percent), payments (151 percent) and TA paid (153 percent). DANTES manages the up-front payments and reimbursements for the Army National Guard and the Army Reserves. DANTES reimburses the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve personnel based on the successful completion of their courses.

The active duty components' activity declined because the Services

are providing up-front funding for distance learning courses of 24 weeks or less. DANTES manages the TA payments for distance learning courses more than 24 weeks for the Army, Navy and Marine Corps. The distance learning enrollments declined 40 percent, the number of payments declined 20 percent and the TA paid declined 18 percent.

The growth in program activity required an increase in the number of contractors on the staff from three to eleven.

DANTES Catalog of Nationally Accredited Distance Learning Programs update

National Tax Training School has a new address:

67 Ramapo Valley Road
Suite 102
Mahwah, NJ 07430

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determines the applicant is eligible, it sends the Service member a voucher that will permit him or her to sit for the exam. Voucher numbers will be given out until all are depleted. Candidates for this exam should be advised to read the application carefully. The A+ Core Hardware and the A+ OS Technologies exami-

nations are administered at national test centers (Prometric or VUE).

For additional information, go to the DANTES web site at <http://www.dantes.doded.mil> for Certification Programs and look under "Funded Pilot Programs." Feel free to contact the Certification Program at certprog@voled.doded.mil or call (850) 452-1360.

Funded FCC pilot information available online

The Funded Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Pilot program went online during the week of 13 January. Funding is available for 625 candidates who can take up to three FCC examinations in one sitting. The pilot is for active duty and Reserve component personnel who are in a related military occupation.

Each candidate must complete the *DANTES FCC Funded Pilot Application* and have it signed by the installation Test Control Officer prior to sending it to the National Association of Radio and Telecommunications Engineers (NARTE) for processing. The application form is online on the DANTES Certification Program web site. When NARTE determines the applicant is eligible, it issues a voucher number to each candidate so they can test at the installation education center.

For additional information on this certification pilot, please go to the DANTES web site <http://www.dantes.doded.mil>. Find the information under "Funded Pilot Programs." To correspond with the DANTES Certification Program Manager, E-mail certprog@voled.doded.mil.

Calendar

March

8-12 Praxis* # (See below.)

April

4 Excelsior Extended Response (Essay)

14-18 CLEP General English Composition w/Essay*

14-19 GRE Subject*

26-30 Praxis*

May

6-8 ASE (Overseas)**

6, 8, 13 ASE (Conus)**

June

2-6 CLEP General English Composition w/Essay*

6 Excelsior Extended Response (Essay)

9 LSAT

28-2 July Praxis*

Notes:

Overseas test centers send orders 6 weeks before the test date. Conus test centers send orders 4 weeks before the test date. Contractors ship tests to arrive just before the planned test date.

*Select only one test date from the published period for DANTES testing and specify that date on the order form.

**Deadline for ordering ASE exams is 21 March

#March 8-12 are correct dates for March. *DEPH Praxis* pages II-9-15 to II-9-27 incorrectly list March 8-13.

http://www.dantes.doded.mil/dantes_web/library/docs/examinations/02-03cal.doc

New alternate forms for DSST exam

The January 2003 TCO Memorandum from Chauncey Group International (CGI) announced the introduction of two new alternate test forms for the "History of the Vietnam War". The new forms are SG/SL473 and are available for ordering.

Please review your test inventory and return the recalled SF473 version of this test immediately. CGI will not score answer sheets submitted with the SF473 test code after 30 April 2003.

Incorrectly mailed test materials

When test materials (e.g., test booklets and answer sheets) are sent to the wrong testing agency, it causes a chain-reaction of problems.

The recipient of the incorrectly mailed materials notifies DANTES to determine if the missent test package should be returned to the test center or forwarded to the correct testing agency.

DANTES contacts the test center so that the TCO is aware that examinee score reports will be delayed. This may cause a problem for examinees if these scores are needed for:

- ◆ finishing degree requirements, or
- ◆ registering for a class.

Avoid these errors by ensuring that the address on the mailing label

agrees with the checked contractor address on the DANTES Document Receipt Form (1560/14).

Scores for tests taken while deployed

We are receiving an increasing number of inquiries from military examinees requesting their scores for exams taken while they were deployed to other locations. While the Exam Programs staff cannot respond to individual examinee requests, we recommend you tell examinees who are temporarily deployed at your installation to:

- ◆ Leave a self-addressed envelope with the test center so the "Examinee's Copy" of the score report can be mailed to their address.
- ◆ Contact their Service automated counseling or transcript system such as AARTS, CCAF, Coast Guard Institute, or SMART. CLEP, DSST and Excelsior test results are provided to these systems on a regular basis.
- ◆ Upon return to their permanent installation, contact the DANTES TCO and request an unofficial transcript from the testing agency.

Remember: Use only the DANTES ID number of the test center administering the exam on the answer sheet. Scores for CLEP, DSST and Excelsior exams are returned to the test center that administers the exam.

MICROTEST Q™ 5.0 Assessment System scoring software available

Late last year NCS released the newest version of MICROTEST Q™ Assessment System scoring software. MICROTEST Q™ 5.0 Assessment System for use in Microsoft® Windows® environments offers a time-and-cost-efficient method of scoring the Career Assessment Inventory and Campbell™ Interest and Skill Survey from NCS. For an annual fee and the cost of individual reports, you can score answer sheets, receive reports on your office printer, and store results. More than 25 instruments are available on MICROTEST Q™ software, enabling you to streamline the administrative aspects of testing and focus on the results to benefit your clients.

- ◆ Simplified CD installation
- ◆ Sorting by batch number when using scanner entry
- ◆ Simplified data labels
- ◆ Streamlined online testing and manual entry displays
- ◆ Year 2000 compliance

MICROTEST Q™ can help you:

- ◆ Score Assessments: Administer tests online, scan answer sheets using NCS OpScan® 2, 3, 5, or 6 or key-enter item responses and receive immediate results.

- ◆ Report Results: From graphical profiles of respondents' scores to detailed narrative analysis. Microtest Q™ reporting options enable you to choose the level of information you need.
- ◆ Store and Export Data: Test results and other related information can be organized, scored and regenerated in a variety of ways to meet your specific needs. Data also can be exported to other software applications for editing or creating your own database for outcome analysis.

Minimum System Requirements:

- ◆ Pentium® processor 200 MHz or higher
- ◆ Windows® 95, 98, 2000, XP or Windows NT®
- ◆ 64 MB of RAM
- ◆ CD ROM drive (for installation only)
- ◆ 100 MB of space on hard drive
- ◆ Windows®-compatible graphics printer
- ◆ NCS OpScan® scanner (if scanner is used)

Scanning Options:

NCS has been a leader in optical mark read (OMR) scanning technol-

ogy for more than 30 years and offers a complete line of scanners available to meet your test scoring needs. In just seconds, an OMR scanner connected with Microtest Q™ Assessment System software can input critical client data, bypassing the more time-consuming and error-prone keyboard entry method. Following are several models that may be appropriate for your practice.

- ◆ OpScan® 2: Manual-feed scanner intended for lower-volume usage.
- ◆ OpScan® 3: Autofeed scanner that can read up to 1,200 pages per hour.
- ◆ OpScan® 6: Autofeed scanner that can read up to 3,600 pages per hour.

While this tool is not part of the DANTES contract, it is a very useful and dynamic counseling product.

For more information and pricing on the Microtest Q™ and NCS OpScan® scanners, please contact:

Chris McMorris
Education Account Manager
E-mail: cmcmorris@ncs.com
Phone: 800-627-7271, ext. 5137

Read the DANTES Information Bulletin online at
http://www.dantes.doded.mil/dantes_web/bulletin/index.htm

Register now for the 2003 DOD Worldwide Education Symposium

Have you registered to attend the 2003 DOD Worldwide Education Symposium? If not, take a few minutes to go online and register today at <http://www.ww-003.com>.

The 2003 Symposium theme, "Lifelong Learning: Enhanced Readiness for the Nation" will offer a valuable opportunity for all the majoe players in the DOD Voluntary Education Program to come together and focus directly on the mission of educating Service members now and in the future. The program planners have incorporated a full program of sessions, workshops, and roundtable focus groups.

Symposium Registration

Symposium Fee: \$185 (on or before 7 June); \$200 (after 7 June or on-site). This includes all General and Concurrent Sessions, exhibit hall Gala opening event and exhibit hall entrances, refreshment breaks, social events and meetings, conference materials.

Guest Ticket for Exhibit Hall Gala: \$10 (Adults only)

To register online, go to the Symposium web site at <http://www.ww-003.com> or download the form and mail it directly to **TMC**

Design Corporation. Note: Credit cards will be charged the week of 16 June.

Symposium Lodging

Guest rooms are available at the Orlando World Center Marriott Resort and Convention Center. Call Marriott Reservations at 1-800-564-3181. When making reservations, be sure to state you are attending the DOD Worldwide Symposium. To guarantee room availability and a specific rate, be sure to make your reservations before 7 June. A limited number of rooms are blocked for each rate.

Lodging rate: \$95 (government rate); \$120 (conference rate)

Pre-Symposium Workshop

If you are arriving early and want to attend the Pre-Symposium Myers-Briggs Type Indicator®/Strong Skills and Confidence Inventory, please fill in the form below and fax it to DANTES at (850) 452-1162. Class size is limited to 35 people.

This workshop will also be available during the Symposium on Tuesday, 8 July at 5:30-9:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 9 July at 1-5 p.m.; and Thursday, 10 July at 8 a.m.-12 noon.

Sign-up for these times will be available on-site during registration check-in.

For more Symposium information, contact:

TMC Design Corporation

Symposium Manager
P.O. Box 2218
Suffolk, VA 23432
Phone: (757) 357-4011
Fax: (757) 357-5108

DANTES

Pat Landry, Symposium Chair
Phone: (850) 452-1132
DSN: 922-1132
Fax: (850) 452-1162
E-mail: training@voled.doded.mil

Gala Exhibit Hall

Come and help celebrate the Official Opening ("Evening in the Tropics") of the 2003 Worldwide Symposium Exhibit Hall on Monday evening, 6-9 p.m., featuring more than 130 exhibits. Steel drum music will welcome guests as they enter the Crystal Ballroom at the Orlando World Center Marriott Resort & Convention Center.

Myers-Briggs Type Indicator®/Strong Skills Confidence Inventory Pre-Symposium Workshop

Monday, 7 July 2003 1- 5 p.m.

Name: (Mr., Ms.) _____ Rank: _____
Street Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: (____) _____ - _____ DSN: _____ - _____
E-mail address: _____

Fax the form to: DANTES, Code 10H, (850) 452-1162 or DSN 922-1162.

Symposium Schedule at a Glance

Sunday, 6 July

- 1 - 5 p.m. ----- Military Service Meeting (U.S. Marine Corps)
- 1 - 2:30 p.m. ----- MGIB Meeting (Closed)
- 2:30 - 4 p.m. ----- Reserve Component Education Panel (RCEP) meeting
- 1 - 6 p.m. ----- Symposium Registration

Monday, 7 July

- 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. ----- Exhibitor Setup
- 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. ----- Registration
- 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. ----- Military Service Meetings (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, USCG, ARNG, Reserves)
- 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. ----- Webster University Directors Meeting
- 1 - 5 p.m. ----- Workshops (Myers-Briggs Type Indicator®/Strong Skills and Confidence Inventory)
- 6 - 9 p.m. ----- Gala Opening of Exhibit Hall: "Evening in the Tropics"

Tuesday, 8 July

- 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. ----- Registration
- 8 - 12 noon ----- Opening General Session
- 12 noon - 7 p.m. ----- Exhibit Hall Open
- 1 - 5 p.m. ----- SOC Advisory Board Meeting
- 1:30 p.m. - 5 p.m. ----- Concurrent Sessions
- 6 - 7:30 p.m. ----- American Association of State Colleges & Universities (AASCU) Reception

Wednesday, 9 July

- 7:30 - 11 a.m. ----- Registration
- 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. ----- Concurrent Sessions
- 8 - 11:30 a.m. ----- SOCAD Advisory Committee Meeting
- 11 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. ----- Exhibit Hall Open
- 11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. -- DANTES Education Services Advisory Panel (DESAP) Meeting
- 12 noon - 1 p.m. ----- Roundtable Focus Groups
- 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. ----- Troops to Teachers State Directors Meeting
- 7 - 9 p.m. ----- SOCCOAST Institutional Representatives Meeting

Thursday, 10 July

- 8 a.m. - 12 noon ----- Concurrent Sessions
- 12 noon - 1 p.m. ----- Roundtable Focus Groups
- 1:30 - 4 p.m. ----- Closing General Session: Featured Speaker is Dr. Constantine Curriss, President, American Association of State Colleges and Universities

Friday, 11 July

- 8 a.m. - 12 noon ----- Service Meetings (Air Force, Army, US Coast Guard, Navy Recruiting, Army National Guard)

Go to the Symposium Web site at <http://www.ww-003.com> for schedule updates.

Enlisted leadership at WW03

by MGySgt James O'Keefe, DANTES Special Enlisted Advisor



MGySgt O'Keefe

Adding to the growing list of "reasons why" all VolEd professionals should attend the DOD Worldwide Education Symposium 2003 (WW03) from 7-11 July (Orlando, FL), I must tell you about the WW03 Senior Enlisted Panel! This Panel comprises the senior

to be an informative and insightful composite of perspectives, support and inspiration for the educational endeavors of our enlisted personnel. I am pleased to announce planned appearances from representatives of:

- ♦ **The Army:** Sergeant Major of the Army, Sergeant Major J. L. Tilley;
- ♦ **The Marine Corps:** The



enlisted representatives of each Service. The subject of this Panel is "Enhanced Readiness through Education for the Enlisted Force" and is scheduled for Tuesday morning, 8 July as part of the WW03 General Session. This Panel promises

planned changeover of the office of the Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps (SMMC) is simultaneous with the WW03 dates (7-11 July). Sergeant Major A. L. McMichael attended WW00. We are hopeful

that the next SMMC will attend WW03;

- ♦ **The Navy:** Command Master Chief, Naval Personnel Development Command, Master Chief Petty Officer J. P. Russell;
- ♦ **The Air Force:** Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, Chief Master Sergeant G. R. Murray;
- ♦ **The Coast Guard:** Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard, Master Chief Petty Officer F. A. Welch; and
- ♦ **Guard and Reserve Components:** Senior Enlisted Advisor, ASD, Reserve Affairs, Command Sergeant Major J. J. Leonard, Jr.

Their remarks and presence will highlight the importance of the symposium and validate our mutual commitment to supporting the enlisted members of our Armed Services. Don't miss this event!

Have you registered for WW03? For registration information, visit <http://www.ww-003.com>.

Do you have a Success Story?
E-mail me at ea@voled.doded.mil.



Visit our new web site at
<http://www.dantes.doded.mil>

DANTES Information

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6490 SAUFLEY FIELD ROAD
PENSACOLA, FL 32509-5243
<http://www.dantes.doded.mil>

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Barry L. Cobb, Ph.D., Director

Lynn Owens, Editor

Telephone and fax numbers are: DSN 922-(xxxx) or (850) 452-(xxxx).

Office	Phone	Fax	E-Mail
Director's Office	1745	1159	dantes@voled.doded.mil
Enlisted Advisor	1742	1159	ea@voled.doded.mil
Reserve Advisor	1760	1159	rca@voled.doded.mil
Web Site	1047	1322	dantes.webmaster@voled.doded.mil
European Advisor	011-49-6202-80-6008		dantes@hq.hqusareur.army.mil
Far East Advisor	011-822-7915-5581		fareast@voled.doded.mil
Troops to Teachers	1320	1096	ttt@voled.doded.mil
Education Support Dept.	1732	1162	
Military Evaluations/SOC	1732	1162	high-edu@voled.doded.mil
MIVER/WW Symposium/ACME	1732	1162	training@voled.doded.mil
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Certification	1360	1161	certprog@voled.doded.mil
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